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- Grass roots hearings by Congressmen to get a better sense of citizens' views of national needs.
- Establish non-Governmental research centers to "subject defense programs to critical examination."

Signers of Report

Congressmen who signed the report were: George Brown Jr., Phillip Burton, Don Edwards, Augustus Hawkins, Robert Leggett, Thomas M. Rees and Edward Roybal, all of California; Hugh Carey, Shirley Chisholm, Jacob Gilbert, Edward Koch, Allard Lowenstein, Richard Ottinger, Bertram Podell, Benjamin Rosenthal, William F. Ryan, James Scheuer, and Lester Wolff, all of New York; John Conyers and Charles Diggs Jr. (Mich.); William Moorhead, Robert Nix and William J. Green (Pa.); Robert Kastenmeir and Henry Reuss (Wis.); Henry Helstoski and Frank Thompson Jr. (N.J.); William Clay (Mo.); Bob Eckhardt (Tex.); Donald Fraser (Minn.); William Hathaway (Maine); Ken Hechler (W. Va.); Abner Mikva (Ill.); Patsy Mink (Hawaii); Louis Stokes (Ohio) and Robert Tiernan (R.I.)

Hearings to Begin

Two Congressional hearings on defense problems are to begin Tuesday.

The Senate Armed Services Committee plans a rare public inquiry into the C-5A, the big transport currently estimated to cost $2 billion more than Congress was first told. Air Force witnesses are scheduled to be heard then and officials from Lockheed Aircraft Corp., the plane's maker, on Wednesday.

A Joint Economic subcommittee also starts hearings on national priorities and military outlays on Tuesday. The subcommittee, which just reported that the Pentagon wastes billions annually, begins with J. Kenneth Galbraith of Harvard and Charles Schultze, former Budget Bureau Director.

Kennedy Sees ABM Costing $20 Billion

Associated Press

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy says the cost of the completed Safeguard Antiballistic missile system is likely to be at least $20 billion—three times the official estimate of the Nixon Administration.

"This money should be used for programs of security and progress here at home," the Massachusetts Democrat argues in an introduction to a book being published Tuesday detailing arguments against the ABM project.

The book itself was edited by Profs. Abram Chayes of Harvard and Jerome Wiesner of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Kennedy had suggested it be written. The text was released lest month.

Kennedy says the announced price tag for Safeguard is $6.6 billion or $7.2 billion, depending on size, and that this does not include the cost of warheads, annual operating costs or research performed to date.

The Brookings Institution, he says, estimates that the cost overrun of advanced weapons systems usually runs between 400 and 700 per cent of original cost, while a study by a Budget Bureau official puts the figure at 200 to 300 per cent.

Taking the 300 per cent figure, he continues, would put the cost of Safeguard "at $18 billion to $21 billion, excluding warheads, annual operating costs and research and development."

Percy Believes July 20 Is Arms Talks Deadline

Sen. Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.) said yesterday that the Nixon Administration should begin arms control talks with the Russians before July 20 if it hopes to remain "credible with the Soviet Union and with the country."

He said the first order of business at the talks should be "a moratorium on the deployment of both offensive and defensive nuclear weapons."

Percy, interviewed on the CBS program "Face the Nation," said the Administration had not pushed ahead to start arms talks because it "wants to be fully prepared." But he said, "I think that period of appraisal should now come to an end."

"I think the Administration should be ready by this time," he said, "and I think the absolute deadline to get these talks under way, to be credible with the Soviet Union and with the country now, is by the end of the first six months, and that would mean by July 20."

Percy noted that Secretary of State William P. Rogers had said recently that the talks were expected to begin by late spring or early summer. Percy said July 20 "is on the outer end of that . . . and I would hope they get under way even sooner than that."

Bus Crash Kills 6

Reuters

SALIGURI, India, June 1—Six passengers today were killed and eight seriously injured when a bus plunged 30 feet into a dry river bed in a hilly area near this town in upper West Bengal.

HAROLD E. HUGHES